

CONFIDENTIAL.]

REPORT

[No. 41 of 1881.]

ON

NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 8th October 1881.

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

| No. | Names of newspapers. | Place of publication. | Number of subscribers. | Dates of papers received and examined for the week. |
|-----|----------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|---|
| | BENGALI. | | | |
| | <i>Monthly.</i> | | | |
| 1 | "Bhārat Shramajīvi" | Calcutta | 2,100 | |
| 2 | "Grāmvartā Prakāshikā" | Comercolly | 175 | |
| | <i>Fortnightly.</i> | | | |
| 3 | "Sansodhini" | Chittagong | 600 | 22nd September 1881. |
| 4 | "Purva Pratidhwani" | Ditto | ..... |  |
| | <i>Weekly.</i> | | | |
| 5 | "Ananda Bazar Patrikā" | Calcutta | 700 | 3rd October 1881. |
| 6 | "Arya Darpan" | Ditto | ..... | 30th September 1881. |
| 7 | "Bhārat Bandhu" | Ditto | ..... |  |
| 8 | "Bhārat Mihir" | Mymensing | 671 | |
| 9 | "Bengal Advertiser" | Calcutta | 2,000 | |
| 10 | "Bardwān Sanjivani" | Burdwan | 296 | |
| 11 | "Chāruvartā" | Sherepore, Mymensing | ..... |  |
| 12 | "Dacca Prakāsh" | Dacca | 350 | |
| 13 | "Dūt" | Calcutta | ..... | 24th and 26th September 1881. |
| 14 | "Education Gazette" | Hooghly | 745 | |
| 15 | "Halisahar Prakāshikā" | Calcutta | ..... |  |
| 16 | "Hindu Ranjikā" | Beauleah, Rājshāhye... | 200 | |
| 17 | "Medinī" | Midnapore | ..... |  |
| 18 | "Murshidābād Patrikā" | Berhampore | 487 | 30th September 1881. |
| 19 | "Murshidābād Pratinidhi" | Ditto | ..... |  |
| 20 | "Navavibhākar" | Calcutta | 850 | |
| 21 | "Paridarshak" | Sylhet | ..... |  |
| 22 | "Pratikār" | Berhampore | 275 | |
| 23 | "Rajshahye Samvād" | Beauleah | ..... | 27th ditto. |
| 24 | "Rungpore Dik Prakāsh" | Kakiniā, Rungpore | 250 | 29th ditto. |
| 25 | "Sādhārani" | Chinsurah | 500 | |
| 26 | "Sahachar" | Calcutta | 500 | |
| 27 | "Som Prakāsh" | Changripottā, 24-Perghs. | ..... |  |
| 28 | "Sudhākar" | Mymensing | ..... |  |
| 29 | "Sulabha Samāchār" | Calcutta | 4,000 | |
| 30 | "Srihatta Prakāsh" | Sylhet | 440 | |
| 31 | "Tripurā Vartāvaha" | Commillah | ..... |  |
| | <i>Daily.</i> | | | |
| 32 | "Samvād Prabhākar" | Calcutta | 700 | |
| 33 | "Samvād Purnachandrodaya" | Ditto | 300 | |
| 34 | "Samāchār Chandrikā" | Ditto | 625 | 27th ditto. |
| 35 | "Banga Vidya Prakāshikā" | Ditto | 500 | |
| 36 | "Prabhāti" | Ditto | ..... |  |
| 37 | "Samāchār Sudāhbarsan" | Ditto | ..... |  |
| | ENGLISH AND URDU. | | | |
| | <i>Weekly.</i> | | | |
| 38 | "Urdu Guide" | Ditto | 365 | 1st October 1881. |
| | HINDI. | | | |
| | <i>Weekly.</i> | | | |
| 39 | "Behār Bandhu" | Bankipore, Patna | 500 | |
| 40 | "Bhārat Mitra" | Calcutta | 500 | |
| 41 | "Sār Sudhānidhi" | Ditto | 200 | |
| 42 | "Uchit Baktā" | Ditto | ..... |  |
| | PERSIAK. | | | |
| | <i>Weekly.</i> | | | |
| 43 | "Jām-Jahān-numā" | Ditto | 250 | 30th September 1881. |
| | URDU. | | | |
| | <i>Weekly.</i> | | | |
| 44 | "Akhbār-i-Darussaltanat" | Ditto | ..... |  |
| | ASSAMESE. | | | |
| | <i>Monthly.</i> | | | |
| 45 | "Assam Vilāsini" | Sibsagar | ..... |  |

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION.

DUT,
September 26th, 1881.

The *Dut*, of the 26th September, observes that the Secretary of State becomes at times somewhat inscrutable. Hitherto native drivers have been employed on the State Railways, but the Secretary of State, it seems, has now discovered that work cannot be properly done by them, and so he is determined upon sending 30 engine-drivers from England. The question is, if native drivers have really proved a failure, how have the State Railways been working so long?

SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
September 27th, 1881.

2. We extract the following observations from an article in the *Samachar Chandrika*, of the 27th September, taking the *Englishman* to task for extolling the

Old Indian Civilians.
Indian Civilians, and instituting a comparison between Mr. Grant Duff and Sir Ashley Eden:—It would be offering an insult to the intelligence of the reader if one were to draw a comparison between Mr. Eden and the new Governor of Madras. The remark has been repeatedly made that a syce can never become a coachman. It is not everybody that can move in the path of high statesmanship. That the Indian Civil Service has produced but very few men like Sir John Lawrence must be at once admitted. Local experience, that boast of the Civilians, has been a source of lasting torment to the people. The longer a Civilian remains in India the narrower becomes his heart, and this narrowness of the heart is the source of all evil. Things do not become good simply because they are old: an old dove is a bird of ill omen. A crime due to an error of judgment is far less heinous than one deliberately committed. The wrongs done by old Indian officials are done deliberately; if there are any mistakes committed by new Governors without any local experience they can only be due to an error of judgment. There is no remedy against a wrongful action deliberately committed. Liberality of heart may correct the baneful effects of a perverted judgment. There is no liberality in the hearts of old Indian officials.

SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA.

3. The same paper, in an article headed "We do not want the Edens," observes as follows:—There can be no great harm done to the country by men like Mr. Grant Duff. It is a misfortune to the people that there should be Civilian Governors in Bengal and other provinces. The Duke of Buckingham might or might not have done any good to Madras, but it is certain that he did nothing prejudicial to the interests of that Presidency. Act IX of 1878 was not enforced in Madras, and the Governor showed sympathy with the people during the famine. These fortunate circumstances would never have occurred had the destinies of Madras been held by a Civilian Governor. In spite of the assertions to the contrary of the *Englishman* and other friends of Sir Ashley Eden, Bengal seems destined to remain in its present condition. As long as Civilians remain in charge of the administration, the people will continue to be tormented by old officials. It is no doubt expedient for a zemindar to have for any village in his zemindari a resident of the same village as his *gomashta*, but this proves ruinous to his tenants.

RUNGPORE DIK
PRAKASH,
September 29th, 1881.

4. The *Rungpore Dik Prakash*, of the 29th September, in a lengthy article echoes the observations made by the *Charuvarta* on the expediency of commencing the Dacca-Mymensingh Railway line from Aricha opposite Goalunda. The Editor observes that if the line is commenced from Dacca, the people of eastern and north-eastern Bengal will feel great inconvenience. In the case of a steamer service between Dacca and Goalundo, passengers will be put to great expense on account of the steamer and other charges, and very

likely run the risk of delay in journey. Those again will have to bear no end of trouble who may happen to reach the station after the steamer has started. The merchants with their goods will have to wait for the steamer. This would involve no ordinary trouble and loss to them. Under these circumstances, it is highly expedient to start the railway line from Aricha. A slightly increased expenditure at the outset should not prevent the work being taken up at the right point, as it will in a short time return the capital with profit. It is hoped that Sir Ashley Eden will take the matter into his careful consideration.

5. A correspondent of the same paper draws the attention of the authorities to the obnoxious practice which prevails in Rungpore of stealing fruits and various other vegetable produce from the plantations of neighbours, and of creating all sorts of nuisance on a certain night in the month of *Bhádra* consecrated to the "evil moon." The practice is not confined to the lower classes, even men of good social position appear interested in it, and it is taken advantage of for the purpose of taking revenge on a party against whom one may bear a grudge.

RUNGPORE DIX
PRAKASH,
September 29th, 1881.

6. The *Ananda Bazar Patriká*, of the 3rd October, observes that countless complaints are heard on all sides about salaries being withheld for work done in the Census office; it would be a great injustice if the poor clerks got no remuneration for their labour.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
October 3rd, 1881.

7. We extract the following observations from the same paper:—The *Hindoo Patriot* has in a recent issue showered eulogium on Sir Ashley Eden, on the alleged ground of the prosperous condition of the finances of Bengal during his administration. As the financial condition of these provinces, however, was not unsatisfactory under any one of his predecessors, Sir Ashley Eden deserves but little praise, and it is only therefore professional sycophants that can praise him in this connection. According to the *Hindoo Patriot* large sums of money have been expended during Sir Ashley's rule for improving the condition of the roads and ferries. It is, however, not known to the public that Sir Ashley Eden has done any good to the country beyond founding a hospital on the summits of Darjeeling for the benefit of Europeans. Whoever has read his recent rules regarding the charitable dispensaries, can find out how Sir Ashley Eden is striving to gradually improve these institutions off the face of the country. The Himalayan Railway has certainly been opened under his auspices, but what good the country will derive from it passes comprehension. It will no doubt facilitate the shooting excursions of Europeans, and their spending the summer on the Hills, but the people will not be in the least benefited by it. Pleasure-seeking European ladies have secured an advantage, and *Fra Diavolo* and his beloved Alice will be able to breathe mountain air to their heart's content, availing of the railway line. But to argue that the Bengalees have derived any advantage from it would be as just as to urge that the Suez Canal has conferred benefits upon the Siamese. The villages in Bengal assume the appearance of so many islets in the rainy season, the village roads become impassable on account of mud, and people in large numbers continue to die of fever and starvation. Such is Sir Ashley Eden's improvement of the condition of the roads, and such is his concern for the health of the people!

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA.

8. The same paper in another article on the subject of re-opening the college classes in the Gowhati school, observes that no subscriptions can be raised for that purpose in a poor and unenlightened province like Assam, and it

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA.

Re-opening of the college classes in
the Gowhati school.

is to be hoped that Lord Ripon will fulfil the expectations of those who have already addressed a memorial to him on that subject.

LOCAL.

RAJSHAHYE SAMVAD,
September 27th, 1881.

9. A correspondent of the *Rajshahye Samvad*, of the 27th September, exhorts Mr. Ruddock, the Chairman of the Municipal grievances in Rajshahye. Rajshahye Municipality, to see with his own eyes the wretched condition of the roads and drains in the town. The arrangement for lighting the streets is also bad, the lanterns for the most part being unclean. This causes great hardship at night, particularly in the rainy season.

RAJKRISHNA MUKHOPADHYAYA, M.A. & B.L.,

Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,
The 8th October 1881.